

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 44 and 45, as set forth in the listing of claims that follows:

Listing of Claims

(insert marked-up claims)

1. (Previously Amended) A dynamic antenna system, comprising:
at least one antenna element; and
a frequency-selective-surface operably juxtaposed with said at least one antenna element to actively reconfigure the frequency specific reflectivity and absorption characteristics of said surface as a function of the operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the frequency selective surface reflects, transmits, or absorbs signals defined by operating frequency bands, polarizations, or environmental conditions.
4. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 3, wherein the reflected, transmitted, or absorbed frequencies includes AMPS, which operates on the 824-849 and 869-894 MHz bands, DAB, which operates on the 1452-1492 MHz band, commercial GPS, which operates around 1574 MHz (L1 Band) and 1227 MHz (L2 Band), PCS, which operates on the 1850-1910 and 1930-1990 MHz bands, SDARS, which operates on the 2.32-2.345 GHz band, and AM/FM, which operates on the 540-1700 kHz and 88.1-107.9 MHz bands.

5. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one antenna establishes a reference point for orientating the frequency selective surface.

6. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 5, wherein the frequency selective surface is orientated in a parallel configuration with respect to the at least one antenna.

7. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 5, wherein the frequency selective surface is orientated in a perpendicular configuration with respect to the at least one antenna.

8. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the surface is a two-dimensional surface.

9. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein surface is further defined to include a plurality of surfaces responsive to operating a plurality of characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions.

10. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1 wherein the surface defined a three-dimensional volume.

11. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 10 wherein the three-dimensional volume partially encapsulates the at least one antenna.

12. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 10 wherein the three-dimensional volume entirely encapsulates the at least one antenna.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the algorithm processor selects a surface configuration appropriate to the operational state of the surface.

15. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the transmitter/receiver provides a control signal to the algorithm processor or the memory module that indicates the operational mode of the antenna.

16. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the transmitter/receiver generates a control signal that indicates strength or directional characteristics of the transmitted, received, or absorbed electromagnetic signal as a function of the particular frequency to which the transmitter/receiver is tuned.

17. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the transmitter/receiver may provide a received signal strength indicator signal to the algorithm processor.

18. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the algorithm processor responds to the control signal by initiating a search process of the conceptual space of possible surface configurations to select an appropriate surface configuration.

19. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the algorithm processor starts the search process at a switch configuration that produced acceptable surface characteristics during past usage of the antenna system.

20. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the algorithm processor addresses the memory module to retrieve a default switch configuration.

21. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 20, wherein the default switch configuration are a symmetrical configuration of the elements.

22. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 20, wherein, if the default configuration produces acceptable surface characteristics, the algorithm processor uses the default switch configuration, or, if the default switch configuration no longer produces acceptable surface characteristics, the algorithm processor searches for a new switch configuration using the default switch configuration as a starting point.

23. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein, once the algorithm processor finds the new switch configuration, the algorithm processor updates the memory module to replace the default switch configuration with the new switch configuration.

24. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein the algorithm processor indicates the selected switch configuration to the switch controller, and, in response to the indication of the selected switch configuration, the switch controller addresses the memory module to access information stored in the memory module corresponding to the selected surface configuration.

25. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 24, wherein the switch controller, upon receiving the information stored in the memory module signals the opening or closing of the switches.

26. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 43, wherein a sensor antenna connected to the transmitter/receiver provides an indication of system performance.

27. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 26, wherein the sensor antenna harvests environmental condition data from a global positioning signal to provide position data to inform the antenna system of a poor reception area.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Amended) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 44, wherein the dipole elements further comprise:

impedance elements to cause a reflective, transmittive, or absorbing surface for various frequency bands, polarizations, and environment conditions .

30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the surface is a low impedance surface that lobes signals towards or away from the surface.

32. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the surface is a high impedance surface that lobes signals toward or away from the surface.

33. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the surface is an absorbing surface that lobes toward or away from the surface.

34. (Original) The dynamic antenna system according to Claim 1, wherein the surface is a matching surface that passes signals through the surface.

35. (Previously Amended) A method for dynamically optimizing an antenna system, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one antenna element; and

providing a frequency-selective-surface in operable juxtaposition with said at least one antenna element to actively reconfigure the frequency specific reflectively and absorption characteristics of said surface as a function of the operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions.

36. (Original) The method according to Claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

disposing within the frequency-selective-surface a plurality of electrically connectable elements; and

disposing within the frequency-selective-surface a plurality of switches that, when in an open state, disconnects the elements, or when in a closed state, connects to the elements to permit altering of the radiation characteristics of the frequency selective surface.

37. (Original) The method according to Claim 35, further comprising the step of reflecting, transmitting, or absorbing signals defined by operating frequency bands, polarizations, or environment conditions.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the directing operation step further comprises:

starting a search process via the algorithm processor to provide a switch configuration including acceptable surface electromagnetic characteristics gleaned during past usage of the antenna system.

40. (Original) The method according to Claim 39, wherein the directing operation step further comprises:

indicating, via the algorithm processor, the selected switch configuration to the switch controller, and,

responsive to the indicating step, addressing the switch controller from a switch configuration stored in the memory module corresponding to a selected surface configuration.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 47, wherein the environmental condition data harvested during the harvesting step is global positioning data that provides position data.

43. (Original) A dynamic antenna system, comprising:

at least one antenna element;

a frequency-selective-surface responsive to operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions, said adaptable frequency selective surface including a plurality of electrically connectable elements and

a plurality of switches that, when in an open state, disconnects the elements, or when in a closed state, connects to the elements to permit altering of the radiation characteristics of the frequency selective surface;

a transmitter/receiver that receives/transmits an electromagnetic signal;

a switch controller that provides control signals for the switching elements to selectively open or close the switches;

a memory module operatively coupled to the switch controller that stores surface configurations or switch states; and

an algorithm processor that directs operation of the switch controller in a responsive manner via signals received by the at least one antenna.

44. (Currently Amended) A dynamic antenna system, comprising:

at least one antenna element; and

a frequency-selective-surface ~~responsive to~~ operably juxtaposed with said at least one antenna element to actively reconfigure the frequency specific reflectivity and absorption characteristics of said surface as a function of the operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions, said adaptable frequency selective surface including a plurality of electrically connectable elements and a plurality of switches that, when in an open state, disconnects the elements, or when in a closed state, connects to the elements to permit altering of the radiation characteristics of the frequency selective surface,

wherein the elements are dipole elements.

45. (Currently Amended) A dynamic antenna system, comprising:

at least one antenna element; and

a frequency-selective-surface ~~responsive to~~ operably juxtaposed with said at least one antenna element to actively reconfigure the frequency specific reflectivity and

absorption characteristics of said surface as a function of the operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions, said adaptable frequency selective surface including a plurality of electrically connectable elements and a plurality of switches that, when in an open state, disconnects the elements, or when in a closed state, connects to the elements to permit altering of the radiation characteristics of the frequency selective surface,
wherein the elements are slot elements.

46. (Original) A method for dynamically optimizing an antenna system, comprising the steps of:

- providing at least one antenna element;
- altering a frequency-selective-surface responsive to operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions;
- reflecting, transmitting, or absorbing signals defined by operating frequency bands, polarizations, or environment conditions;
- receiving a radiated electromagnetic signal from a transmitter/receiver;
- providing a control signal from a switch controller to control an open or closed position of the switches;
- storing surface configurations or switch states in a memory module operatively coupled to the switch controller; and
- responsive to signals received by the at least one antenna, directing operation of the switch controller from commands sent from an algorithm processor.

47. (Original) A method for dynamically optimizing an antenna system, comprising the steps of:

- providing at least one antenna element;

altering a frequency-selective-surface responsive to operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions; and
harvesting environmental condition data from a sensor antenna.

48. (Original) A dynamic antenna system, comprising:

at least one antenna element;
a frequency-selective-surface responsive to operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions;
controller means operative to generate control signals to effect reconfiguration of frequency specific reflectivity and/or absorption characteristics of said surface; and
processor means operative to direct operation of said controller means in response to signals received from said at least one antenna element.

49. (Original) A method for dynamically optimizing an antenna system, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one antenna element;
providing a frequency-selective-surface responsive to operating characteristics of the at least one antenna element and/or surrounding environmental conditions;
providing controller means operative to generate control signals to effect reconfiguration of frequency specific reflectivity and/or absorption characteristics of said surface; and
providing processor means operative to direct operation of said controller means in response to signals received from said at least one antenna element.